

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: December 24, 1963

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DECLASSIFIED BY

ON 11-15-80

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

NEGRO QUESTION

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

INTERNAL SECURITY - COMMUNIST

1-Mr. Belmont
 1-Mr. Sullivan
 1-Mr. Baumgardner
 1-Mr. Gurley
 1-Mr. Ryan

Tolson ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Casper ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Gale ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

In view of the influence the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA), is exerting on the racial situation, particularly through Martin Luther King, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the Director approved a conference be held between representatives of our Atlanta Office and Seat of Government personnel.

Recognizing the delicacy of this entire situation because of the prominence of King, the primary purpose of the conference was to explore how best to carry on our investigation to produce the desired results without embarrassment to the Bureau. Included in our discussion was a complete analysis of the avenues of approach aimed at neutralizing King as an effective Negro leader and developing evidence concerning King's continued dependence on communists for guidance and direction.

The conference was held at the Seat of Government on 12-23-63. It was attended by [redacted] SA [redacted] from our Atlanta Office. The Seat of Government representatives were Assistant Director W. C. Sullivan, Inspector Joseph A. Sizoo, Section Chief F. J. Baumgardner and Supervisors L. T. Gurley and David Ryan. The conference lasted from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

100-3-116

FJB:skw

(6)

Classified by

Exempt from GDS

Date of declassification

11-15-90

XEROX

OTHER: WITHHELD UNDER COURT ORDER

22 JAN 8 1964

57 JAN 12 1964

Secret

UNRECORDED

REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

DEC 26 5 33 PM '63

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

DEC 27 10 02 AM '63

JAN 2 3 28 PM '64

REC'D - SULLIVAN
FBI - JUSTICE

RECEIVED
FBI

DEC 26

REC'D - SULLIVAN
FBI - JUSTICE

REC'D - SULLIVAN
FBI - JUSTICE

DEC 26 12 08 PM '63

DEC 24

4 31 PM '63

8 32 AM '63

DEC 26 11 15 AM '63

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

DEC 26 1 06 PM '63

REC'D - JUSTICE

DEC 26 6 48 PM '63

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

DEC 27 2 32 PM '63

REC'D - SULLIVAN
FBI - JUSTICE

DEC 27 2 45 PM '63

SENSTUDY 75

NOTATIONS HEREIN ACCOUNT FOR ACCESS AND/OR DELIVERY OF THIS DOCUMENT TO SENATE
SELECT COMMITTEE (SSCI) AND/OR HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE (HSC) ON INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.
IMPORTANT NOTE: FORM IN WHICH ACCESS AND/OR DELIVERY WAS MADE MAY BE DIFFERENT
THAN AS REPRESENTED BY THIS DOCUMENT IN THAT CERTAIN EXCISIONS MAY HAVE BEEN
MADE. FOR ACCESS/DELIVERY FORM, SEE BUFILE (S) 62-116395 (SSCI), 62-116464 (HSC).

ACC. SSC 62-116395-672-650 HSC
DATE 8/29/75 ACC. HSC
DEL. DATE DEL.
MIS. DATE MIS.
DOCUMENTS FURNISHED TO SSC/RE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WERE ALSO FURNISHED
TO STATE OF KING THROUGH THE DEPT. AS INDICATED BELOW FOR INSTANT DOCUMENT, DATE
DENOTING DELIVERY TO DEPT. SEE BUFILE 100-106670 FOR FORM IN WHICH FURNISHED.
TO DEPT.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
NEGRO QUESTION
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS
100-3-116

OTHER :WITHHELD UNDER COURT ORDER

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (U)

During the discussion which followed, the men from the field outlined in detail the operation of the SCLC in Atlanta and the manner in which it is managed by King. (U)

Our discreet approach to this case has been necessitated by King's prominence and the delicate situation which surrounds the entire racial movement. A wrong move could well result in extreme embarrassment to the Bureau. As a result of the conference, it was decided we need to develop additional information in the following areas: (U)

- (1) We must determine and check out all of the employees of the SCLC.
- (2) We must locate and monitor the funds of the SCLC.
- (3) We must identify and check out the sources who contribute to the SCLC.

(4)

(5)

(6)

[REDACTED] (U)

OTHER :WITHHELD UNDER COURT ORDER

11/7/78
- 2 CLASSIFICATION RETAINED BY 60X-WANTON
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
NEGRO QUESTION
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS
100-3-116

~~Secret~~

This conference proved to be most beneficial, and the men from the field expressed their appreciation for the opportunity of being brought into the Seat of Government for the purpose of exploring this entire matter. They were both enthusiastic about the case and stated the conference was of exceptional benefit to them and will be of assistance in setting the future course of the investigation. (U)

OTHER WITHHELD UNDER COURT ORDER

ACTION:

--

4012 *Lrs.*
Jan *for Wed*
OK *[Signature]* *[Signature]*

~~Secret~~